

# Sasebo Living

Volume 1, Issue 1

## Message from the Housing Director

One of the nice things about living in Military Family Housing is the policy of residents being allowed to have pets. Owning a pet while living in Government housing is a privilege and encompasses a great amount of responsibility. Recently, pet owners have not been as responsible as they have been in the past. This is very disappointing to me.

The housing office has recently received telephone calls from residents relating that they have found "doggy land mines" in their yard and also on the sidewalks around their quarters. If you walk your pet, please take a pooper scooper or plastic bag with you so you will be able to clean up after your pet. This is a "must do" thing. For some pet owners, your dog having an "accident" on your lawn may be of little concern, but if you are not a pet owner, it can be very irritating and upsetting if it happens in your yard. Pets are not allowed to run free at any time and that includes cats. They cannot be chained or tied to any part of your quarters, trees, or bushes.

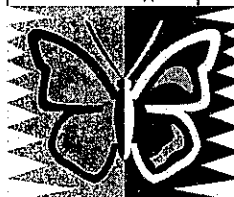
Pets should be kept within your fenced area if you live in a town house. Cats are not allowed to roam free in the housing area or in a Tower. A pet may be kept in the front yard only if it is tied or chained to a properly install ground stake. The chain or rope will be of a length that will not allow the pet to interfere with other housing occupants, maintenance workers, or guests. The pet should not be able to reach the street, side walk, or playground. Do not chain or tie your pet to a tree because this could cause girdling which will eventually kill the tree. If your pet damages your quarters, you will be responsible to pay for the repairs.

I am a true pet lover and I am providing this information to you for your benefit. The housing office does not want to charge you for any damage done by pets that could have easily been averted. Let's all be good neighbors.

Bruce L. Gorst, Director, Family Housing

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### SELF HELP

## PCS SEASON May-July

If you are leaving Sasebo on PCS orders, you must go to Housing Office at least 30 days before you PCS out in order to give a notice of terminating government quarters. If you live in the Cho, you must go to the Housing Office at least 10 days before you intend to terminate your lease, unless you live in an RPP unit; in which you will need to provide a 30 days notice. Please understand that receiving a pack out and notifying Personal Property is not notifying Housing. Personal Property and Housing Office are two separate organizations and must be contacted individually.

If you are stationed in Sasebo and the sponsor will be leaving Sasebo on PCS orders (not unit deployment or individual TAD), to attend school due to PCS orders, and the family is remaining in the Cho or government quarters, Continuing Logistic Support (CLS) and/or retention of government quarters must be requested. When the sponsor leaves Japan, the family members lose their SOFA status and allowances unless CLS is requested and approved. CLS must be requested 90 days prior to departure of the sponsor. If a sponsor has accepted unaccompanied orders and wishes for his family to Japan, the sponsor must request CLS and request for a designated place of residency with station allowances. In this case the family members must attain regular visitors passport and apply for resident alien status in Japan. Procedures are outlined in COMNAVFOR-JAPAN INSTRUCTION 4060.6N, "Logistic Support of Dependents."

Main Base: SHEDS AVAILABLE ONLY

Hario: 1200-1300 & 1615-1730 (M-Th) 1200-1300 (Fri)

The Self-Help Center is closed during Holidays, Saturdays and Sundays. All off-base residents should utilize Hario Self Help Center.

Specialty equipment such as floor buffer or ladders can be picked up from the Hario or Main Base Housing Office during regular housing office hours Monday through Friday. You must call before hand and make an appointment to ensure items and personnel are available for issue.

## STORING KEROSENE SPACE HEATERS

We are at the end of the heating season so those who are using kerosene heaters should now try to limit the amount of kerosene that you buy. This will eliminate the need to store kerosene during the warmer months. In order to store your kerosene heaters, there are a few things that you must do:

Ensure that the heaters are unplugged before storage.

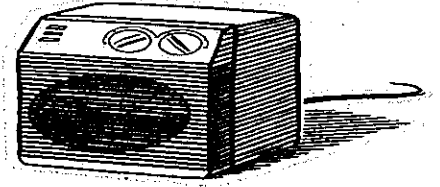
Empty the kerosene from the heater's removable tank.

If you can remove the kerosene from the smaller non-removable tank, do so, if not then put the empty kerosene tank into the heater unit and run the heater to consume the remaining kerosene.

Clean the air intake filter and wipe the unit clean.

Store the heater in a dry, ventilated area.

The best thing is to try to use all the kerosene up prior to storing the heater. Any remaining kerosene should be stored in an approved non-leaking kerosene container and stored in a cool, dry area. When storing kerosene, make sure that it is in a container intended for kerosene, not a gasoline can, or a container that has had gasoline in it.



## HOW TO USE THE LAWN MOWERS

Examine the lawn for any objects that may be thrown into the air by the mower.

Remove any items from the lawn such as rocks, toys, pebbles or pieces of wood.

Children and pets should be away from the mower to avoid any risk of injury. It is

important to change the mowing direction each time that the lawn is mowed. This

will ensure that the grass has time to recuperate and will continue to grow in its

normal patterns throughout the season. The grass should be dry before mowing. If

the grass is wet then the grass will stick to the mower creating difficulties while

mowing and cause mechanical difficulties with the mower. While mowing, switch

the mower off before moving across sidewalks, driveways and other paths that are not made of grass. Never mow up a

hill. If you are faced with a hill mow across the hill ensuring the mower does not fall backwards and injure the operator.

Never refuel the lawnmower while the engine is hot. Remember to fuel up before cutting to ensure optimum results. Fuel-

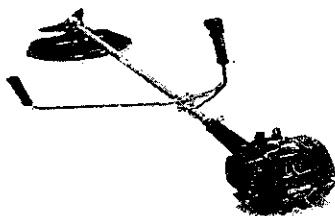
ing while the mower is hot could create a backslash of fuel and injure the mower operator. The lawn should be mowed

at least once every two weeks.



## HOW TO USE THE WEED EATERS

The answer to perfect borders and edges around fences is in a weed eater. This tool creates uniform height and straight edges in your garden. Weed eaters have no wheels, blades or guides. It is one of the easiest tools to use as there is a spinning nylon rope that acts as the cutter moving at high speeds to snip the grass or weeds off at the top. It is used by hand at points in the lawn where the mower would be dangerous or inefficient such as; at the edge of the driveway, around the garden, or around the edge of a deck. The weed eater should not be used on gravel or surfaces other than grass. The nylon string that the edger uses as a cutting agent may snap while coming in contact with a rock, house, garden hose or a deck. It is important to use the edger with care around these areas.



## Barbeque Requirements



With the coming of spring, individuals will be breaking out their barbequing grills. Residents living in Towers can also barbeque, but they must abide by CFAS INST 11320.1. All residents, both tower and non-tower residents, should review this instruction. This instruction lists all of the safety requirements to ensure a safe barbeque. Both Kiku Tower and Sakura Towers are now authorized to BBQ, since the pigeon netting has been changed to non-flammable netting.

The following is required of tower residents and second floor two-bedroom Garden Apartments.

1. Only gas or electric grills are permitted on balconies.
2. Must have a two-pound extinguisher in place while using BBQ grills.
3. All combustible materials must be removed from the balcony area.
4. Ensure propane bottles are properly installed, tightened and secured before and after usage of the grill.
5. Propane gas hoses must be far away from hot surfaces and dripping hot grease.
6. Storage of spare fuel tanks for grills is not authorized.
7. Families living in two-bedroom Garden Apartments are not authorized to BBQ on landings or common areas of the building, as they are utilized as emergency accesses.

## Responsibilities of Pet Owners



Ownership of pets, on or off base, is a conditional privilege extended to pet owners living in Military Family Housing (MFH) or living in a rental unit that the landlord has given permission to have a certain type of pet. For off-base, it is expected that the owner of the pet will ensure that it is properly controlled, picked up after, and is not a nuisance to neighbors. Permission to own a pet should be requested from the landlord before getting a pet in order to alleviate any misunderstandings and not break any portion of a binding lease. The landlord may request, if granting permission to have a pet, additional fees and deposits that the renter will be responsible for. These additional fees and deposits cannot be added to the rent and is the sole responsibility of the renter.

Individuals living in Military Family Housing should review page 22, paragraph 318, of the Residents Handbook (COMNAVFORJAPANINST 11101.15). All MFH units have a copy of this instruction located in the unit. Its location is pointed out during the Move-in Inspection. Types of pets approved for MFH are small birds, fish, hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, small turtles. These pets must be properly caged and the cages must also meet their habitational needs.

Dogs and cats are also allowed in MFH. However, restrictions apply. Only two are allowed. You can have either two dogs, two cats, or one dog and one cat. Additionally, dogs are not allowed in towers, midrise, and second floor two-bedroom Garden Apartments. Dogs are only allowed in those units that have an attached, fenced yard.

All pets must be registered with the Vet on base and must be also registered at the Housing Office. A local pet form must be filled out and submitted to the Housing Office either when pets were brought to Japan or acquired after arriving in Japan.

Some of the conditions of animal ownership include the following (please review instruction for additional conditions).

1. Animals shall be restrained or confined.
2. Animal premises shall be kept sanitary and shall not constitute a fly breeding reservoir, a source offensive odors or of human or animal disease.
3. Animal shall not be permitted to disturb the peace or constitute a public nuisance or hazard.
4. Unless walked, they must be in an approved fenced yard.
5. When walked, they must be on a hand-held leash in control of a responsible person.
6. **ON A DAILY BASIS** owners will maintain their yards **AND ADJACENT AREAS** clean and free of animal droppings. The person walking a pet (owner or not) is responsible to pick-up and properly dispose of any droppings.

Do not feed stray/loose animals. Report stray/loose animals or dead animals to the local Security Office at your location. Animals that become a nuisance to neighbors in Hario Village should be reported in writing to the Housing Area Manager in Hario Village or, if located on Main Base housing (Fiddlers Green or Dragon Vale), to the Personnel Support Manager at the Main Base Housing Office.

## Is Mold and Mildew Bugging You?

Mold is always present in the environment. These spores grow quickly in moist, dark environments and may become a health hazard when concentrations of mold spores are increased by growth in living and working environments. The climate in this area of Japan, with its moisture and humidity, is just right for the growth of mildew and mold.

Mildew loves to grow in laundry and bathrooms because they always have a high level of humidity that is simply caused by their continual use. To help prevent mold and mildew in these areas, please keep the laundry room and bathroom doors open and leave the lights on and the exhaust fan running for about five minutes after use. Additionally, after taking a shower, wiping water droplets from the shower walls/ceiling will effectively reduce moisture and humidity. It is a good idea to keep these doors open at all times to allow good air circulation and for some light to enter.

For the other rooms in your quarters, mold and mildew grow best in dark unlighted areas so always keep as much light in your unit as possible. Open the blinds and curtains during the day and let in the sunshine. When going on leave/vacation, make sure you keep the laundry room, bathroom, and bedroom doors open and the A/C in the master bedroom and living room turned on LOW. This will keep the air moving and also keep the temperature constant in your quarters. Don't forget the closets. Many closets are not well ventilated and are dark so keep those doors open when you can as much as possible.

## ICE COMMENTS

The Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) System is a wonderful way to express your feelings to the Housing Office staff about the service you have received (good or bad) and/or to recommend changes in order for us to better serve you. Although the ICE Comment Line does not require a return email or phone number, several valid issues are being addressed to the Housing Office and should be answered. In order to provide answers to your questions or comments, it is recommended you leave an email or phone number. All correspondence will be kept confidential. We enjoy hearing from you regardless if you have a compliment or a complaint. The ICE System is available through the CFAS web page.

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